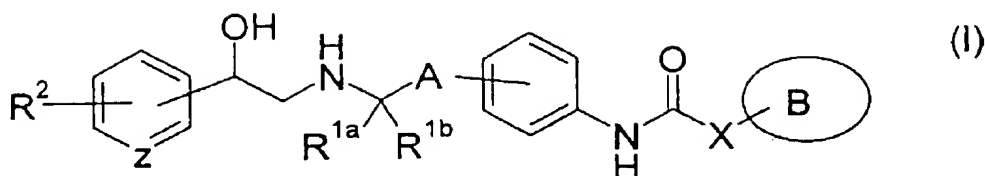


## Abstract



Amide derivatives represented by general formula (I) or salts thereof wherein each symbol has the following meaning:

ring B: an optionally substituted heteroaryl optionally fused with a benzene ring; X: a bond, lower alkylene or lower alkenylene optionally substituted by hydroxy or lower alkyl, carbonyl, or a group represented by -NH- (when X is lower alkylene optionally substituted by lower alkyl which may be bonded to the hydrogen atom bonded to a constituent carbon atom of ring B to form lower alkylene to thereby form a ring); A: a lower alkylene or a group represented by -(lower alkylene)-O-; R<sup>1a</sup> and R<sup>1b</sup>: the same or different and each hydrogen or lower alkyl; R<sup>2</sup>: hydrogen or halogeno; and Z: nitrogen or a group represented by =CH-. The compounds are useful as a diabetes remedy which not only functions to both accelerate the secretion of insulin and enhance insulin sensitivity but has an antiobestic action and an antihyperlipemic action based on its selective stimulative action on a  $\beta_3$  receptor.

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